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QUALITY OF PRODUCTION CRITICIZED - - Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 9 October 1951

The workers in the industrial construction, and transportation enterprises at Plovdiv showed their patriotic initiative by making a pledge to Comrade Vulko Chervenkov that they would fulfill their yearly production plans in 11 months. One point in the pledge was an improvement in the quality of production.

Proud that their initiative was picked up throughout the country, the workers at Plovdiv worked diligently to fulfill their pledge. During the first half of the year the plan was over-fulfilled.

However, the Party, trade union, and administrative engineering authorities did not give the necessary attention to the problem of quality. Certain enterprises such as the "Balkan" Factory, the "Bryast" State Industrial Enterprise, the "Madara" State Industrial Enterprise, the "Anton Ivanov" State Metal Works, the "Purvi May" Tailors' Association, the "Pobeda" ("victory") Shoemakers' Association, etc. continued to produce poor-quality goods. In spite of the warnings and alarm signals from the commercial organizations no measures were taken when they should have been in order to improve the quality.

It was only after the National Conference on quality of Production, at which definite tasks were assigned to the Party officials and the workers at specified places in connection with

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improving the quality of production, that the work of the city committee of the BKP (Bulgarian Communist Party) in this matter was improved. The bureau of the city committee of the BKP took up the problem of the quality of production. With its assistance the Party organizations in the enterprises also acquired a correct attitude towards the problem. The workers at the "Maritsa" Factory gave a pledge that 97 percent of the factory's production would be first grade.

In August of this year there was an enlarged plenum of the BKP city committee, at which the problem of quality was discussed and a number of measures were decided upon for improving the work of industrial workers.

Socialist competition to improve quality was instituted in the enterprises. Especially good work was done by the communists and the youth in production work and by the leaders of the brigades. Show cases were set up in the enterprises with high and low-grade semi-finished and finished products, accompanied by the names of those who had manufactured them. Militant slogans for improving quality were posted in prominent places.

The movement for high-grade production is well organized at the "Maritsa" Weaving Factory. Under the guidance of the Party organization mass agitation and instruction work is being carried on in the brigades. The shops are decorated with militant slogans, tables and charts, which urge the workers on in the struggle for high-grade production. In addition, the grade

of cloth produced by the (women) weavers is marked daily into their individual production files. In the shops and in a special part of the yard the pictures of the best weavers and foremen, who turn out only first grade cloth are displayed. The result of all this is that the workers of this factory turned out 98 percent first grade products during July, August, and September.

The personnel of the "Vasil Kolarov" Antomobile Repair Works, the Bolt Factory, the "Madara" Factory, the "Balkan" Factory, the "Ninth of September" Factory, etc., have considerably improved the quality of their production. In these enterprises the individual workers and the production brigades work to win individual quality marks and the honorary designation "brigade for high-grade production".

Notwithstanding the fact that certain results have been attained in the struggle for high grade production, what has been accomplished up to now is quite insufficient. The bureau of the City committee of the BKP, which made a correct and timely assignment of tasks for improving the quality of production, was unable to secure the cooperation of the okrug trade union committees and the city committee of the Dimitrov Youth League in the fulfillment of these basic objectives and did not and does not exercise the necessary daily supervision over the execution of its own decisions in this matter.

The National Conference on the Quality of Production also assigned special tasks to the trade unions and the Dimitrov Youth League for the improvement of the quality of production. But

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the okrug trade union committees at Plovdiv and the city committee of the Dimitrov Youth League adopted a formalistic attitude towards this problem of primary importance and did not take the necessary organizational measures.

As its chairman, Toder Kharamiev, admits the okrug trade union council, which must coordinate and supervise the execution of the duties assigned to the okrug trade union committees and facilitate the exchange of experience, etc., has not given enough attention to the problems connected with quality of production and has not had a report on this question from a single one of the okrug committees. The okrug trade union committees give but little assistance to the executive bodies of the trade union organizations in the enterprises and do not draw their special attention to the daily struggle to improve the quality of production.

The bureau of the city committee of the Dimitrov Youth

League gives little if any attention to the problems of production. It has passed all such problems on to the officials of the "Rabotnicheska Mladezh" (Working Youth), who cannot possibly cope with such an enormous amount of work.

In its decisions dealing with quality of production the city committee of the EKP has seriously underestimated the role and the importance of the Fatherland Front as a mass political organization, which can organize daily public control over the quality of goods produced. For its part, the okoliya-city committee of the Fatherland Front has shown no initiative and has not placed

the problem of quality of production before its organizations.

At a number of enterprises such as the "Anton Ivanov"
State Metal Works, the "Stalin" Plant, and others, the administrative engineering authorities, who are responsible for the fulfillment of the production plan and for quality of production, do not take the necessary measures to instill into the foreman and specialists the idea that they must keep their machinery and equipment in perfect working condition, prepare their blueprints on time and correctly, and inspect the first casting of every part whose production is starting; in other words they do not organize a strict technical control over production. Those in charge of the shops and shifts still seem to think that it is only the controller of quality who has to work for the improvement of the quality of production, and they do not seek the cooperation of the entire personnel in this effort.

Only this can explain the very high percentage of defective production at such an important enterprise as the "Anton Ivanov" State Metal Works, where the director is Nano Nanov, the former secretary of the Party organization is Zhivko Terziev, and the chairman of the factory trade union committee is Rasho Rashkov. Even now this plant permits 27 to 30 percent defective production in the manufacture of tractor pistons and 15 percent in asbestos cement pipes. The Party's political education work is very feeble at this plant, and the achievements of the best individual workers and brigades are not given enough publicity.

The problem of the quality of production is not being solved in any better manner at the following enterprises: the

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"Purvi May" Tailors' Association, the "Pobeda" Shoemakers' Association, and the "Khlyab" (Bread) Association.

The struggle to improve quality of production must be carried on uncompromisingly every day and every hour. The city committee of the BKP must enroll and recruit in this struggle all the forces of society and must see to it that the okrug trade union committees and the youth become more active and wage a constant struggle against low-grade production.

END

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